

ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) AGREEMENT

NOTICE: This agreement describes the adoption assistance benefit you will receive for your adopted child. If you agree, please sign the agreement and return it to the adoption agency. If you disagree, please contact the adoption agency. If you and the agency cannot reach an agreement, you will receive a Notice of Action which explains how to ask for a state hearing to resolve the matter.

I/we, _____ and _____, have entered into an agreement with the _____ for an adoption assistance benefit for _____.

(NAME OF PARENT) (NAME OF PARENT) (NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER OF AGENCY) (NAME OF CHILD)

AAP eligibility is expected to continue from _____ until _____. This AAP Agreement will continue until it is modified or terminated in accordance with its terms.

(DATE OF ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT) (EXPECTED ENDING DATE OF ELIGIBILITY)

This is (check one) ☐ a deferred agreement (complete Section II only.)
☐ an initial agreement
☐ an amendment to the agreement dated _____.
(DATE OF INITIAL AGREEMENT)

Complete Section I or II as appropriate.

SECTION I

- An AAP benefit of \$ _____ per month is authorized to begin _____. The child's needs must be reassessed periodically, at least every two years. The first scheduled reassessment is _____.
(BEGINNING DATE OF PAYMENT) (FIRST REASSESSMENT DATE)
- Unless the benefit is ending because of age, _____ will send me/us a Reassessment Information - Adoption Assistance Program (AAP 3) form at least 60 days before the next reassessment date. I/We shall complete the AAP 3 and return it to the _____.
(COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT) (ADOPTION AGENCY)
 If I/we do not return the AAP 3 form, the adoption agency will conclude that I/we no longer want to continue receiving an AAP benefit and the benefit will stop until I/we make a new request for an AAP benefit and enter into a new Adoption Assistance Agreement.
- With my/our agreement, the adoption agency may increase or decrease the amount of the AAP benefit as my/our circumstances or the needs of the child change.
- The AAP benefit will be adjusted automatically without requiring a new AAP agreement at the same time and to the same degree as any automatic adjustments to payments for state-approved basic foster care maintenance. My child may be eligible for an age-related increase after his or her 5th, 7th, 9th, 12th, 13th and 15th birthdays. I/We shall contact the adoption agency to request this increase.
- The AAP benefit may not exceed the age-related, state-approved foster family home care rate and any applicable state-approved specialized care increment for which the child qualifies, which would have been paid if the child had not been placed for adoption.
- The foster care payment that the child would have received may change if other income is received by or on behalf of the child. Any specialized care increment that the child would have received may change because of a change in his or her special needs. If the amount of the AAP benefit exceeds the foster care payment amount that the child would have received if he or she were in foster care, the AAP benefit will be reduced to that amount.

7. If the child is currently a California Regional Center (CRC) client, the maximum available AAP benefit will be based on the child's needs that are reflected in his or her current level of need assessed by the CRC. CRC clients who leave California shall be able to continue to receive AAP benefits based on the most current level of need assessed by the CRC.
8. Continuation of the AAP benefit depends upon my/our legal responsibility for the support of the child and on continued receipt of that support by the child.
9. I/We agree to inform the adoption agency immediately if any of the following occurs:
- Our mailing address changes.
 - The child leaves the family home and we are no longer supporting the child.
 - We are no longer legally responsible for the support of the child.
 - The child begins to receive unearned income (*i.e.*, *Social Security, SSI/SSP, other*).
10. Failure to report these changes may result in an overpayment which may be recovered by a direct charge or a reduction in current and future AAP benefits.
11. I/We understand that _____ will remain eligible to receive an AAP benefit from the
(NAME OF CHILD)
State of California regardless of the state in which I/we reside.
12. I/We understand that under the terms of this agreement the child is eligible for services under Title XIX (*Medicaid*) and Title XX (*Social Services*) of the Federal Social Security Act. _____ will help
(ADOPTION AGENCY)
the child obtain these services if I/we live in or move to another state by providing information and referral services.
13. I/We understand that the child will not be eligible to receive an AAP benefit after he or she reaches the age of 18 years unless he or she has a mental or physical disability which warrants continuation of the benefit to the age of 21 years.

SECTION II (*Deferred Agreement*)

I/We understand that _____ has _____ which
(NAME OF CHILD) (SPECIFY HEALTH PROBLEM)
may result in a future need for AAP benefit. Although assistance is not needed at this time, I/we understand that after completion of the adoption, if I am/we are unable to meet the child's needs related to this known medical condition, or physical, mental, emotional disability or other health condition, I/we may request an AAP benefit.

REASONS FOR AAP ELIGIBILITY:

- ☐ Age ☐ Sibling Group Member ☐ Adverse Parental Background ☐ Minority Ethnicity
☐ Mental/Physical Health Problem

ADOPTIVE PARENT	DATE	ADOPTIVE PARENT	DATE
CHILD'S AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE	DATE	CHILD'S AGENCY NAME	
FAMILY'S AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE (CO-OP PLACEMENT ONLY)	DATE	FAMILY'S AGENCY NAME	
